

Message Text

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TOVIP 10 FOR MR. GLITMAN

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TOVIP NUMBER OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: NATO

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF NUNN-BARTLETT TRIP TO NATO

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF JAN. 24 PRESS RELEASE FROM OFFICE OF
SENATOR NUNN, SUMMARIZING AND STATING MAJOR CONCLUSIONS
OF HIS AND SENATOR BARTLETT'S REPORT TO THE SENATE ARMED
SERVICES COMMITTEE ENTITLED "NATO AND THE NEW SOVIET
THREAT."

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INTRODUCTION

IT IS THE CENTRAL THESIS OF THIS REPORT THAT THE SOVIET
UNION AND ITS EASTERN EUROPEAN ALLIES ARE RAPIDLY MOVING
TOWARD A DECISIVE CONVENTIONAL MILITARY SUPERIORITY OVER
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TO MODERNIZE AND MAINTAIN ITS CNVENTIONAL FORCES IN
RESPONSE TO THE WARSAW PACT'S BUILDUP AND MODERNIZATION OF
CONVENTIONAL FORCES.

THE VIABILITY OF CURRENT NATO FORCE POSTURE IN EUROPE AND PERHAPS EVEN NATO'S STRATEGY OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE AND FORWARD DEFENSE IS QUESTIONABLE. THERE NOW EXISTS A

DISPARITY BETWEEN THE ALLIANCE'S DECLARED STRATEGY AND THE ABILITY OF NATO FORCES TO IMPLEMENT THIS STRATEGY.

TO MEET THE NEW SOVIET THREAT, SUBSTANTIAL ALTERATIONS IN CURRENT NATO FORCE POSTURE ARE NECESSARY. UNLESS CHANGES ARE MADE, THE ALLIANCE WILL BECOME INCREASINGLY IMPOTENT AS A VEHICLE FOR THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY OF ITS MEMBERS.

THE STATE OF ALLIANCE DEFENSES TODAY

NATO'S SOUTHERN FLANK CAN BE REGARDED AS LITTLE MORE THAN A SHAMBLES. AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF EXPANDING SOVIET NAVAL POWER IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, NATO'S MEDITERRANEAN MEMBERS APPEAR TO BE ABDICATING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY.

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SOVIET CONVENTIONAL FORCES IN EUROPE HAVE UNDERGONE SIGNIFICANT EXPANSION DURING THE PAST DECADE AND ARE UNCLASSIFIED

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WHILE SOVIET FORCES IN EASTERN EUROPE CAN INITIATE A CONFLICT FROM A STANDING START, NATO FORCES CONTINUE TO REQUIRE WARNING TIME OF A DURATION SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT THE ALLIANCE TO MOBILIZE AND DEPLOY TO THE CENTER OF CONFLICT ITS ULTIMATELY GREATER BUT TYPICALLY LESS READY AND POORLY DEPLOYED FORCES. AS THE WARSAW PACT CAPABILITY TO ATTACK FROM A STANDING START GROWS RELATIVE TO NATO'S DEFENSIVE CAPACITY, SO DOES THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE WARSAW PACT WOULD ALREADY BE ON THE RHINE WHEN THE NATO DECISION IS MADE TO USE TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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SOVIET FORCES DEPLOYED IN EASTERN EUROPE NOW POSSESS THE ABILITY TO LAUNCH A POTENTIALLY DEVASTATING CONVENTIONAL ATTACK IN CENTRAL EUROPE WITH A LITTLE WARNING.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A PACT CAPABILITY TO LAUNCH SUCH

AN ATTACK FROM VIRTUALLY A STANDING START CANNOT BE EXAGGERATED. SUCH AN ATTACK WOULD HIT THE ALLIES IN A REDUCED STATE OF READINESS. THE PACT COULD ALSO EMPLOY

AN ATTACK TO DIVIDE THE ALLIES, PARTICULARLY IF THE ATTACK WERE LAUNCHED AGAINST ONE MEMBER RATHER THAN AGAINST THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE. FOR NATO, THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY IMPLICATIONS OF SHARPLY DECREASED WARNING TIME ARE PROFOUND. THEY CALL INTO QUESTION WHETHER NATO'S PRESENT CONVENTIONAL FORCE POSTURE IS ADEQUATE TO MEET THE NEW THREAT.

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IMPLICATIONS OF DECREASED WARNING TIME

MAJOR WARSAW PACT AGGRESSION PRECEDED BY PERHAPS JUST A FEW DAYS' WARNING WOULD EXPLOIT CERTAIN POLITICAL AND MILITARY WEAKNESSES WHICH CONTINUE TO PLAGUE NATO. FOR THIS REASON, IT IS HARD TO ENTERTAIN THE NOTION THAT THE FUNDAMENTAL ALTERATIONS IN THE CHARACTER OF SOVIET FORCE POSTURE IN EASTERN EUROPE REGISTERED DURING THE PAST EIGHT YEARS HAVE BEEN ANYTHING BUT DELIBERATE.

IMPLICATIONS FOR STRATEGY

HOWEVER, NATO CONVENTIONAL FORCES HAVE NOT BEEN ADEQUATELY CHANGED TO MEET A SHIFTING SOVIET CONVENTIONAL THREAT. THE PRINCIPAL ISSUE IS NOT THE STATED PRINCIPLES OF NATO STRATEGY, BUT RATHER THE ABILITY OF THE ALLIANCE TO IMPLEMENT THEM. IN OUR VIEW, THERE IS A GRAVE DISPARITY BETWEEN EXPRESSED NATO STRATEGY ON THE ONE HAND, AND NATO FORCE POSTURE ON THE OTHER.

PROBLEMS OF FLEXIBLE RESPONSE AND FORWARD DEFENSE

FIRST, INHERENT IN THE CONCEPT OF THE "COVERING FORCE" OPERATION IS AN AT LEAST TEMPORARY LOSS OF SOME GERMAN TERRITORY. CURRENTLY, THIS RISK IS COMPOUNDED BY DEFICIENCIES IN THE POSTURE OF NATO'S DEPLOYED FORCES WHICH THREATEN BOTH THE ABILITY OF THE COVERING FORCE TO PROVIDE THE TIME NEEDED TO MOUNT A MAIN DEFENSE, AND THE CAPACITY OF THE COVERING FORCE TO HOLD FORWARD POSITIONS. TOGETHER, THESE CONDITIONS COULD RESULT IN A LOSS OF TERRITORY SO SUBSTANTIAL AS TO DEMORALIZE GERMANY'S CIVIL AND MILITARY AUTHORITY. THIS COULD RESULT IN EARLY LOSS OF NATO'S MOST POWERFUL CONTINENTAL MEMBER.

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POSTURE, PARTICULARLY WHEN COUPLED WITH SOVIET ACHIEVEMENT OF PARITY AT THE STRATEGIC NUCLEAR LEVEL, SUGGEST THAT THE SOVIETS ARE STRIVING TO NEUTRALIZE NATO'S TACTICAL NUCLEAR OPTIONS UNDER "FLEXIBLE" RESPONSE. DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS THE SOVIETS HAVE EXPANDED THEIR THEATRE NUCLEAR FORCES IN EUROPE TO THE POINT WHERE THEY

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IN SHARP CONTRAST, THE COMPARATIVELY SHORT REACH AND LOW YIELD OF MOST OF NATO'S TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD RESTRICT THEIR EMPLOYMENT PRIMARILY TO NATO TERRITORY, PARTICULARLY IF NATO'S CONVENTIONAL FORCES HAD BEEN DRIVEN DEEP INTO THE REAR OF GERMANY. AS ONE KNOWLEDGEABLE GERMAN RECENTLY REMARKED, "DURING THE PAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS NATO HAS PLAYED FIVE WAR GAMES, AND MY COUNTRY HAS BEEN 'DEFENDED' FIVE TIMES AND DESTROYED FIVE TIMES."

POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS

DECISIONMAKING IN CRISIS

THE PRESENT FORMAL STRUCTURE OF COLLECTIVE POLITICAL DECISIONMAKING WITHIN NATO IS SO COMPLEX AND CUMBERSOME THAT IT RAISES THE CATASTROPHIC PROSPECT OF HOSTILITIES PRECEDING EVEN A NATO DECISION TO MOBILIZE. THIS COMPLICATED PROCEDURE NOT ONLY LENGTHENS THE DECISION PROCESS BUT ALSO RISKS DISJOINTED MOBILIZATION.

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THE CURRENT MEANS OF MUSTERING ADEQUATE POLITICAL AUTHORITY FOR COMPREHENSIVE MILITARY MOBILIZATION MAY HAVE BEEN TOLERABLE AT A TIME WHEN NATO COULD JUSTIFIABLY COUNT UPON WEEKS IF NOT MONTHS OF MILITARY WARNING. THEY ARE CLEARLY UNACCEPTABLE AGAINST THE THREAT OF UNEXPECTED ATTACK.

FIREPOWER AND READINESS

ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT MILITARY IMPLICATION FOR NATO OF DECREASED WARNING TIME IS THE WOEFUL INADEQUACY OF THE CURRENT LEVEL OF FIREPOWER READILY AVAILABLE TO NATO FORCES IN THE CENTRAL REGION. THE DISPARITY BETWEEN AUTHORIZED AND ACTUAL LEVELS OF EQUIPMENT MAINTAINED IN

US WAR RESERVE AND PREPOSITIONED STOCKS IS NOTHING SHORT OF A DISGRACE.

IN THIS REGARD, THE PLIGHT OF THE US ARMY, EUROPE IS ESPECIALLY ILLUSTRATIVE. USAREUR TODAY IS SHORT OF ITS

AUTHORIZED AMMUNITION, OF WHICH A SUBSTANTIAL PERCENTAGE IS STORED AT A FEW VULNERABLE LOCATIONS WEST OF THE RHINE. HOWEVER, PURSUANT TO A RECENT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY RATES OF AMMUNITION CONSUMPTION IN A HIGH-INTENSITY CONFLICT IN EUROPE, USAREUR'S AUTHORIZATION HAS BEEN DRAMATICALLY EXPANDED. THEREFORE, IF DOD'S NEW PROJECTIONS ARE CORRECT, USAREUR NOW HAS ON HAND BUT A FRACTION OF THE AMMUNITION IT WILL NEED DURING THE FIRST THIRTY DAYS OF WAR.

THE SEPARATION OF MANY USAREUR COMBAT FORMATIONS FROM IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO THEIR AMMUNITION; THE CONCENTRATION OF AMMUNITION STORAGE SITES IN A MANNER WHICH REPRESENTS A STANDING TEMPTATION TO A PREEMPTIVE SOVIET AIR ATTACK; AND THE DISPOSITION OF MUCH OF USAREUR'S AMMUNITION WEST UNCLASSIFIED

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OF THE RHINE (INCLUDING ENGLAND) ALL COMBINE TO RAISE SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT USAREUR'S TRUE READINESS FOR COMBAT.

THE STATE OF USAREUR'S WAR RESERVE AND PREPOSITIONED EQUIPMENT IS APPALLING.

THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THESE SHORTFALLS IS A COMPARATIVELY LOW PRODUCTION BASE IN THE UNITED STATES FOR MANY ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT COUPLED WITH TRANSFERS AND FOREIGN MILITARY SALES TO OTHER COUNTRIES. THESE ACTIONS APPEAR TO PLACE A HIGHER PRIORITY UPON EQUIPPING THE FORCES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES THAN OUR OWN. THE PRESENT SHORTAGES IN STOCKS OF SUCH HIGH-TECHNOLOGY WEAPONS AS IMPROVED HAWK AIR DEFENSE MISSILES, AIM-7 AND AIM-9 AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES, AND TOW AND DRAGON ANTI-TANK MISSILES COULD BE ELIMINATED WITH A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THESE WEAPONS THE UNITED STATES HAS RECENTLY SOLD (OR UNDERTAKEN TO SELL) TO A HANDFUL OF MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES. IN SOME CASES, EQUIPMENT ALREADY AUTHORIZED BY THE CONGRESS FOR THE ARMY OR THE AIR FORCE HAS BEEN ABRUPTLY SIPHONED OFF THE PRODUCTION LINE BY ONE FOREIGN MILITARY SALE OR ANOTHER DEEMED "CRITICAL TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST." WE WONDER WHAT NATIONAL INTEREST COULD BE MORE CRITICAL THAN THAT OF SUPPLYING US FIGHTING MEN WITH EQUIPMENT SUFFICIENT TO SURVIVE ON THE BATTLEFIELD. WE WONDER WHO HAS HIGHER CLAIM ON AMERICA'S ARSENAL, OUR OWN FORCES OR THOSE OF THE MIDDLE EAST?

WE VISITED A POMCUS SITE WHERE, FOR EXAMPLE, ARMORED FIGHTING VEHICLES WERE STORED IN OPEN FIELDS COMPLETELY EXPOSED TO THE ELEMENTS, WHILE SUCH NON-ESSENTIAL ITEMS AS TENT PEGS, TENTS, GARBAGE CANS, AND FIELD KITCHENS WERE NEATLY TUCKED AWAY IN CLIMATE CONTROLLED SHELTERS.

ANTI-TANK CAPABILITY
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NATO'S ALL TOO-OFTEN CASUAL CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF ITS PREPONDERANCE OF ANTI-TANK WEAPONS TO OFFSET THE PACT'S ADVANTAGE IN ARMOR MAY BE UNJUSTIFIED.

AIR DEFENSE

GROUND AIR DEFENSES ARE PARTICULARLY THIN IN THE CENTAG AREA, AND MUCH OF THE GREAT US LOGISTICS INFRASTRUCTURE IN SOUTHWEST GERMANY, SUCH AS THE MAMMOTH KAISERSLAUTERN ARMY DEPOT, IS POORLY DEFENDED.

A MAJOR DEFICIENCY IN NATO'S GROUND AIR DEFENSE IS A CRUCIAL SHORTAGE OF SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES. ONE EXAMPLE WILL SUFFICE. ACCORDING TO USAREUR AUTHORITIES, THE "BASIC LOAD" OF IMPROVED HAWK MISSILES FOR US HAWK BATTERIES ASSIGNED TO THE DEFENSE OF THE FIFTH AND SEVENTH US CORPS AREAS IS TODAY ADEQUATE TO SUSTAIN COMBAT AGAINST A HIGH-INTENSITY PACT AIR THREAT FOR ONLY A FEW DAYS, AFTER WHICH THE BATTERIES WOULD BE COMPELLED TO DRAW UPON WAR RESERVE STOCKS. YET, HAWK MISSILES WITHHELD IN WAR RESERVE REPRESENT ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE LEVEL AUTHORIZED, AND MOST ARE OLDER, UNIMPROVED HAWKS. AS OF THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1976, THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES PROGRAM HAD SOLD OR HAD CONTRACTED TO SELL OVER 2,000 HAWKS - MOST OF THEM IMPROVED - TO IRAN, ISRAEL, AND JORDAN ALONE.

TASKS BEFORE THE ALLIANCE

IN LIEU OF ELIMINATING THE THREAT OF DECREASED WARNING THROUGH NEGOTIATION, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT NATO ALTER ITS OWN CONVENTIONAL FORCE POSTURE TO OFFSET THE MILITARY BENEFITS THE PACT NOW ENJOYS AS A RESULT OF DECREASED WARNING.
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POLITICAL TASKS

THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC MUST UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW SOVIET CONVEN-

TIONAL THREAT. ADDITIONALLY, TOP PRIORITY ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DEVELOPING WARSAW PACT MOBILIZATION. WE RECOMMEND THAT A CONFERENCE OF KEY NATO MILITARY AND POLITICAL LEADERS BE CONVENED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY THE STEPS NEEDED TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE.

FIRST, CURRENT US FORCE PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS AS TO THE

PRIOR WARNING TIME AND LIKELY DURATION OF A FUTURE CONFLICT IN EUROPE MUST BE REVISED.

SECOND, CURRENT POSTURAL DEFICIENCIES WHICH THREATEN NATO'S ABILITY TO CONDUCT A SUCCESSFUL FORWARD DEFENSE SHOULD BE CORRECTED WITH THE AIM OF PERMITTING THE ALLIANCE TO WAGE THE MAIN DEFENSE BATTLE CLOSE TO THE INTER-GERMAN BORDER.

THIRD, A QUANTUM JUMP IS NEEDED IN NATO'S CONVENTIONAL FIREPOWER. THE FULFILLMENT OF THESE SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES FOR US FORCES SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO FALL VICTIM TO COMMERCIAL OR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES. THE LIVES OF AMERICAN FIGHTING MEN MUST TAKE PRECEDENCE.

IN THE LONG TERM, THE QUANTUM JUMP IN NATO FIREPOWER NECESSARY TO COUNTER THE NEW SOVIET THREAT CAN BE OBTAINED ONLY BY ACCELERATED EXPLOITATION OF ONGOING TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN MUNITIONS, AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS. REPRESENTATIVE OF THESE ADVANCES ARE CANNON-LAUNCHED GUIDED PROJECTILES, AIR- AND ARTILLERY-DELIVERED MINES, LASER-GUIDED WEAPONS, AND TACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF CRUISE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY. THE NEW UNCLASSIFIED

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POTENTIAL OF MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS ALSO SHOULD BE EXPLORED.

FOURTH, THE READINESS FOR IMMEDIATE COMBAT OF DEPLOYED US AND ALLIED FORCES MUST BE IMPROVED.

FIFTH, NATO'S AIR DEFENSES MUST BE TRANSFORMED INTO A CAPABILITY TO INFLICT UNACCEPTABLE LOSSES UPON INTRUDING SOVIET TACTICAL AIR FORCES.

SIXTH, THE ALLIANCE'S PRESENT COMMAND, CONTROL, AND COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY MUST BE SUBSTANTIALLY ENHANCED TO ACCOMMODATE THE DEMANDS OF THE MODERN BATTLEFIELD.

SEVENTH, THE PACE AT WHICH US AND BRITISH REINFORCEMENTS CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CENTRAL REGION MUST BE HASTENED.

FINALLY, INTEROPERABILITY OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT WITHIN
THE ALLIANCE MUST BE RELENTLESSLY PURSUED.

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OF THE RHINE (INCLUDING ENGLAND) ALL COMBINE TO RAISE SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT USAREUR'S TRUE READINESS FOR COMBAT.

THE STATE OF USAREUR'S WAR RESERVE AND PREPOSITIONED EQUIPMENT IS APPALLING.

THE PRINCIPAL CAUSE OF THESE SHORTFALLS IS A COMPARATIVELY LOW PRODUCTION BASE IN THE UNITED STATES FOR MANY ITEMS OF EQUIPMENT COUPLED WITH TRANSFERS AND FOREIGN MILITARY SALES TO OTHER COUNTRIES. THESE ACTIONS APPEAR TO PLACE A HIGHER PRIORITY UPON EQUIPPING THE FORCES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES THAN OUR OWN. THE PRESENT SHORTAGES IN STOCKS OF SUCH HIGH-TECHNOLOGY WEAPONS AS IMPROVED HAWK AIR DEFENSE MISSILES, AIM-7 AND AIM-9 AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES, AND TOW AND DRAGON ANTI-TANK MISSILES COULD BE ELIMINATED WITH A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THESE WEAPONS THE UNITED STATES HAS RECENTLY SOLD (OR UNDERTAKEN TO SELL) TO A HANDFUL OF MIDDLE EASTERN COUNTRIES. IN SOME CASES, EQUIPMENT ALREADY AUTHORIZED BY THE CONGRESS FOR THE ARMY OR THE AIR FORCE HAS BEEN ABRUPTLY SIPHONED OFF THE PRODUCTION LINE BY ONE FOREIGN MILITARY SALE OR ANOTHER DEEMED "CRITICAL TO THE NATIONAL INTEREST." WE WONDER

WHAT NATIONAL INTEREST COULD BE MORE CRITICAL THAN THAT OF SUPPLYING US FIGHTING MEN WITH EQUIPMENT SUFFICIENT TO SURVIVE ON THE BATTLEFIELD. WE WONDER WHO HAS HIGHER CLAIM ON AMERICA'S ARSENAL, OUR OWN FORCES OR THOSE OF THE MIDDLE EAST?

WE VISITED A POMCUS SITE WHERE, FOR EXAMPLE, ARMORED FIGHTING VEHICLES WERE STORED IN OPEN FIELDS COMPLETELY EXPOSED TO THE ELEMENTS, WHILE SUCH NON-ESSENTIAL ITEMS AS TENT PEGS, TENTS, GARBAGE CANS, AND FIELD KITCHENS WERE NEATLY TUCKED AWAY IN CLIMATE CONTROLLED SHELTERS.

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NATO'S ALL TOO-OFTEN CASUAL CONFIDENCE IN THE ABILITY OF ITS PREPONDERANCE OF ANTI-TANK WEAPONS TO OFFSET THE PACT'S ADVANTAGE IN ARMOR MAY BE UNJUSTIFIED.

AIR DEFENSE

GROUND AIR DEFENSES ARE PARTICULARLY THIN IN THE CENTAG AREA, AND MUCH OF THE GREAT US LOGISTICS INFRASTRUCTURE IN SOUTHWEST GERMANY, SUCH AS THE MAMMOTH KAISERSLAUTERN ARMY DEPOT, IS POORLY DEFENDED.

A MAJOR DEFICIENCY IN NATO'S GROUND AIR DEFENSE IS A CRUCIAL SHORTAGE OF SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES. ONE EXAMPLE WILL SUFFICE. ACCORDING TO USAREUR AUTHORITIES, THE "BASIC LOAD" OF IMPROVED HAWK MISSILES FOR US HAWK BATTERIES ASSIGNED TO THE DEFENSE OF THE FIFTH AND SEVENTH US CORPS AREAS IS TODAY ADEQUATE TO SUSTAIN COMBAT AGAINST A HIGH-INTENSITY PACT AIR THREAT FOR ONLY A FEW DAYS, AFTER WHICH THE BATTERIES WOULD BE COMPELLED TO DRAW UPON WAR RESERVE STOCKS. YET, HAWK MISSILES WITHHELD IN WAR RESERVE REPRESENT ONLY A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE LEVEL AUTHORIZED, AND MOST ARE OLDER, UNIMPROVED HAWKS. AS OF THE THIRD QUARTER OF 1976, THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE FOREIGN MILITARY SALES PROGRAM HAD SOLD OR HAD CONTRACTED TO SELL OVER 2,000 HAWKS - MOST OF THEM IMPROVED - TO IRAN, ISRAEL, AND JORDAN ALONE.

TASKS BEFORE THE ALLIANCE

IN LIEU OF ELIMINATING THE THREAT OF DECREASED WARNING THROUGH NEGOTIATION, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT NATO ALTER ITS OWN CONVENTIONAL FORCE POSTURE TO OFFSET THE MILITARY BENEFITS THE PACT NOW ENJOYS AS A RESULT OF DECREASED WARNING.

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POLITICAL TASKS

THE POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC MUST UNDERSTAND THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW SOVIET CONVENTIONAL THREAT. ADDITIONALLY, TOP PRIORITY ATTENTION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO DEVELOPING WARSAW PACT MOBILIZATION. WE RECOMMEND THAT A CONFERENCE OF KEY NATO MILITARY AND POLITICAL LEADERS BE CONVENED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY THE STEPS NEEDED TO MEET THIS CHALLENGE.

FIRST, CURRENT US FORCE PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS AS TO THE

PRIOR WARNING TIME AND LIKELY DURATION OF A FUTURE CONFLICT IN EUROPE MUST BE REVISED.

SECOND, CURRENT POSTURAL DEFICIENCIES WHICH THREATEN NATO'S ABILITY TO CONDUCT A SUCCESSFUL FORWARD DEFENSE SHOULD BE CORRECTED WITH THE AIM OF PERMITTING THE ALLIANCE TO WAGE THE MAIN DEFENSE BATTLE CLOSE TO THE INTER-GERMAN BORDER.

THIRD, A QUANTUM JUMP IS NEEDED IN NATO'S CONVENTIONAL FIREPOWER. THE FULFILLMENT OF THESE SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES FOR US FORCES SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO FALL VICTIM TO COMMERCIAL OR FOREIGN MILITARY SALES. THE LIVES OF AMERICAN FIGHTING MEN MUST TAKE PRECEDENCE.

IN THE LONG TERM, THE QUANTUM JUMP IN NATO FIREPOWER NECESSARY TO COUNTER THE NEW SOVIET THREAT CAN BE OBTAINED ONLY BY ACCELERATED EXPLOITATION OF ONGOING TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCES IN MUNITIONS, AND DELIVERY SYSTEMS. REPRESENTATIVE OF THESE ADVANCES ARE CANNON-LAUNCHED GUIDED PROJECTILES, AIR- AND ARTILLERY-DELIVERED MINES, LASER-GUIDED WEAPONS, AND TACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF CRUISE MISSILE TECHNOLOGY. THE NEW UNCLASSIFIED

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POTENTIAL OF MULTIPLE ROCKET LAUNCHERS ALSO SHOULD BE EXPLORED.

FOURTH, THE READINESS FOR IMMEDIATE COMBAT OF DEPLOYED US AND ALLIED FORCES MUST BE IMPROVED.

FIFTH, NATO'S AIR DEFENSES MUST BE TRANSFORMED INTO A CAPABILITY TO INFLICT UNACCEPTABLE LOSSES UPON INTRUDING SOVIET TACTICAL AIR FORCES.

SIXTH, THE ALLIANCE'S PRESENT COMMAND, CONTROL, AND COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY MUST BE SUBSTANTIALLY ENHANCED TO ACCOMMODATE THE DEMANDS OF THE MODERN

BATTLEFIELD.

SEVENTH, THE PACE AT WHICH US AND BRITISH REINFORCEMENTS
CAN BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CENTRAL REGION MUST BE
HASTENED.

FINALLY, INTEROPERABILITY OF ARMS AND EQUIPMENT WITHIN
THE ALLIANCE MUST BE RELENTLESSLY PURSUED.

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